CURRICULUM VITAE

Katalin Mónika Horváth was born on the first of June 1971 in Pápa, Hungary. After completion of her elementary and secondary school education (Petőfi Sándor High School, 1985-1989, Pápa), she chose to study medicine. Between 1989 and 1995, she attended the Semmelweis University of Medicine, Budapest, Hungary. During her university training, she did several internships in foreign academical hospitals, including internal medicine in Schwetzingen-Heidelberg, Germany (1992); surgery in Trier, Germany (1993); surgery in Cordoba, Spain (1994); and finally obstetrics and gynaecology in Erlangen, Germany (1994). She wrote a graduation thesis entitled: 'The neuroregulation of prolactin secretion, as well as the pathophysiology, diagnostic and therapy of hyperprolactinemia' at the 1st Department of Internal Medicine of the Semmelweis University of Medicine. She graduated cum laude as a general medical doctor.

From 1995-1998 she received a Ph.D. student scholarship at the Semmelweis University in Budapest, where she worked under supervision of Prof. Dr. György.M. Nagy and Prof. Dr. Béla. Halász in the Laboratorium of Cell and Molecular Neuroendocrinology at the Department of Human Morphology and Developmental Biology. Besides performing scientific experiments and attending postgraduate Ph.D. courses, she was actively involved in the education of medical and pharmacy students and gave courses in human anatomy. The Hungarian project was later completed with a dissertation titled 'Regulation of pituitary prolactin secretion: intracellular mechanisms and the role of glucocorticoids' for which she received a Ph.D. in neuroscience, the field of medical sciences, in November 2001 with the qualification summa cum laude.

Between 1997-1998 she has carried out a 6-month research project concerning the 'Effects of the $ACTH_{4-9}$ analog ORG 2766 on behavioral performance and sensitivity to neurodegeneration in rats' at the Department of Animal Physiology, University of Groningen, under supervision of Prof. Dr. Paul G.M. Luiten. This fellowship was supported by the Stichting Onderzoek Neuropeptiden (Foundation for Neuropeptide Research) in The Netherlands. Subsequently, she received an Ubbo Emmius Bursaal scholarship from the School of Behavioral and Cognitive Neurosciences at the University of Groningen and started her promotion project in 1998 under supervision of Prof. Dr. Paul G.M. Luiten, Prof. Dr. Jacques De Keyser and Dr. Peter Meerlo at the Department of Molecular Neurobiology, University of Groningen. The completion of this work led to the present thesis, titled as 'Adult vulnerability to neurodegeneration. Impact of neonatal handling, neuropeptides and adult estrogen treatment'.